

To: City Council
From: Michael McLaughlin, City Manager *MPM*
Date: July 18, 2012
Re: Speed cameras

This memo is to update Council on the status of the speed camera program in preparation for the matter being on Council's August 13 agenda.

The city's contractor for its speed camera program, Brekford, has completed its survey of possible camera locations in Greenbelt. Brekford evaluated 15 locations throughout the city and found speeds in excess of 12 miles per hour over the posted speed limit at all locations. (They looked at three additional locations for a total of 18, but they were unable to finalize the data before they submitted their report.) Attached to this memo are the tables from the report that show the results of their study.

Brekford gathered data at each location over a 48 hour period in late May and early June while schools were in session. As is evident in the tables, there are locations where there is a large number of motorists speeding (300 block of Crescent Road which is between Northway and Greenhill and around Roosevelt High School) and there are areas where there is little speeding such as Springhill Drive near the elementary school.

Staff is preparing a recommendation for Council's consideration at its August 13 meeting to define school speed cameras zones as any area within a half-mile radius of the six schools in Greenbelt (both middle schools). Staff will also recommend five locations for the initial roll-out of cameras. Greenbelt's contract calls for up to 10 cameras. These locations had some of the highest number of violations during the survey and have been confirmed by the Police department as problem areas. The cameras can be moved to other locations in the future. The suggested locations are:

1. Crescent Road between Northway and Greenhill
2. 7700 block of Hanover Parkway
3. 7700 block of Mandan Road
4. Edmonston Road at Springhill Court
5. 5900 Cherrywood Lane

A sixth location on Greenbelt Road will likely be recommended at a later date. Work needs to be done to get approval from the State Highway Administration as this location is on a State Highway. At the Hanover Parkway and Mandan Road locations, it is proposed to install two camera housings at each location (northbound and southbound) and to switch the cameras between the locations.

Under Greenbelt's typical procedures, this item would be treated as a Council action item and thus, considered and acted on at one meeting (August 13). However, because the speed camera program is a State authorized program, the staff recommendation will be part of a resolution on Council's agenda. Normally, resolutions are introduced at one meeting and acted on at a second. As Council has authorized the speed camera program

a number of months ago, had a work session on it as well as a public hearing, it is hoped the resolution can be introduced and acted on at the August 13 meeting, so the program can be implemented as quickly as possible.

Cc: James Craze, Chief of Police
Dan O'Neil, Captain